

REMARKS

This patent application presently includes claims 1-4, all of which stand rejected. The title is amended, and all rejections are respectfully traversed.

The title has been amended to read: "FOCUS SERVO CONTROL FOR OPTICAL DISC APPARATUS." It is believed that this title is both precise and descriptive, and the objection to the title should therefore be withdrawn.

Claims 1 and 3 were rejected as anticipated by Yamada et al. (U.S. Patent No. 5,331,615). This rejection is respectfully traversed. Yamada does not teach or suggest the present invention.

Yamada discloses a control apparatus in which a transfer function is varied in accordance with temperature change. In contrast, the present invention utilizes a transfer function which varies depending upon whether or not seek control is performed. Thus, the present invention and Yamada exercise control based upon entirely different parameters. It is also noted that the present invention is directed to controlling a focus servo, whereas Yamada is directed to a tracking control. Thus, Yamada and the present invention are entirely different as to the intended purpose and the parameters being controlled. There is therefore not the slightest basis for concluding that the presently claimed subject matter would be taught or suggested by Yamada.

Claims 2 and 4 were rejected as obvious over Yamada in view of Janssen (U.S. Patent No. 4,037,252). This rejection is respectfully traversed. Neither reference, nor their combination renders the present claims obvious.

The Examiner cited Janssen for the alleged disclosure that a second transfer function may be utilized with a smaller gain than the first one and equivalent phase margin for similar stability. However, Janssen discloses nothing that would alleviate the defect of Yamada as a reference against the present claims. In other words, independent claims 1 and 3 would still be patentable over Yamada in view of Janssen for the reasons already stated. Claims 2 and 4 depend

from allowable claims 1 and 3, and are believed to be allowable based upon their dependence from allowable claim.

Applicant's attorney has made every effort to place this patent application in condition for allowance. It is therefore earnestly requested that this application, as a whole, receive favorable reconsideration and that all of the claims be allowed as presently constituted. Should there remain any unanswered questions, the Examiner is requested to call the Applicant's undersigned attorney at the telephone number indicated below.

Dated: February 19, 2004

Respectfully submitted,

By 

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